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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The hon. Member has not followed my answer. It is 'The Hon. Ministers and their Parliamentary Secretaries have not kept any account of the ceremonies referred to and performed by them. The tours were not undertaken for that purpose and no expenditure on travelling allowance has been incurred in that connexion. Popular Ministers cannot avoid engagements of various kinds while they move about on public business.' "

Labour strikes in the Province since July 1937.

* 86 *Q.*—SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state the number of labour strikes since July 1937, the places and concerns involved in such strikes, the duration of each strike, the number on strike during each strike, the suspension of industry during each strike, the loss resulting therefrom to industry and the causes of the strikes?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the appendix to the Administration Report of the Labour department for 1937–38 which has been placed at the disposal of the Press. A fuller account of the trade disputes will appear soon."

Extent of wet and dry lands available for assignment.

* 87 *Q.*—SRI RAO BAHADUR M. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to place on the table of this House a statement showing the extent in each of the categories of wet and dry lands available for assignment in each taluk of the Presidency?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" The Government have no information but have called for a report."

Cost of electricity supplied for agricultural purposes.

* 88 *Q.*—SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what the cost per unit is for electricity supplied for agricultural purposes in Coimbatore district?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" The rate for supply of power for agricultural purposes is as follows:—

Power at 400 volts for bona fide agriculturists having not less than three horse-power connected—

For the first 250 units per installed horse-power per annum—1 anna per unit.

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For the next 250 units per installed horse-power per annum—0·90 anna per unit.

For all in excess per installed horse-power per annum—0·75 anna per unit.

"No minimum charge but annual guaranteed consumption of power shall not be less than that equivalent to Rs. 7–8–0 per horse-power connected per year or As. 10 per horse-power connected per month, otherwise balance will have to be paid. Lighting allowed on the power circuits up to 80 watts per 1,000 watts of motive power connected.

"The annual minimum guarantee will be reduced if the consumer is unable to use power owing to scarcity of water in the wells due to exceptional drought. The reduction in the guarantee will be proportionate to the number of days in which the well could not be used and subject to the condition that the consumer sends due intimation in writing to the Electricity department as soon as the well becomes dry and the fact is confirmed by the Collector or by an officer authorized by him."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"May I know whether the cost per unit for electricity is below or above the cost that will be required per unit, if the machine is propelled by steam or gas?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"This question is about Coimbatore alone, and in Coimbatore, the question of machine propelled by steam or gas does not arise."

Proposal, if any, to construct a bridge at Nellimerla, Vizagapatam district.

* 89 *Q.*—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a proposal to construct a bridge at Nellimerla, Vizagapatam district;

(*b*) if so, what the estimated cost of the bridge is; and

(*c*) when the Government propose to start the work?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(*b*) Rs. 3,50,000.

"(*c*) The work can be taken up as soon as the district board gets the detailed plans and estimates for the scheme prepared and sanctioned by the competent authority."